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FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS ASSISTANCE MISSION FOR RWANDA

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR) (A/50/712/Add.3). During its consideration of the report, the Advisory Committee met with representatives of the Secretary-General who provided additional information.

2. The Advisory Committee recalls that, as shown in annex VI to its report dated 30 March 1995 (A/49/501/Add.1), the original cost estimate of the mission for the period from 10 June to 31 December 1995 amounted to $140,389,400 gross ($137,843,400 net).

3. By its resolution 997 (1995) of 9 June 1995, the Security Council, inter alia, adjusted and extended the mandate of UNAMIR until 8 December 1995 and authorized a reduction of the force level.

4. In its resolution 49/20 B of 12 July 1996, the General Assembly decided, as an interim measure, pending presentation of the revised cost estimate, to appropriate to the Special Account for UNAMIR a total amount of $109,951,900 gross ($107,584,300 net) for the period from 10 June to 31 December 1995, and to assess on Member States the amount of $99,628,200 gross ($97,508,000 net) for the period from 10 June to 8 December 1995.

5. The revised cost estimate of UNAMIR for the period from 10 June to 31 December 1995, as contained in the report of the Secretary-General (A/50/712/Add.1), amounts to $96,685,400 gross ($94,880,600 net) which is $2,942,800 gross ($2,627,400 net) less than the amount assessed on Member States in accordance with General Assembly resolution 49/20 B.

6. The Advisory Committee recalls that, in its report dated 17 April 1996 (A/50/936, para. 28), it recommended that action on the Secretary-General's request for approval of requirements for the maintenance of UNAMIR for the period from 10 June to 31 December 1995 in the revised amount of $96,685,400 gross ($94,880,600 net) be deferred pending the submission of a final performance report for the period.

7. The Secretary-General's report (A/50/712/Add.3) contains information on the financial performance of UNAMIR for the period from 10 June to 31 December 1995. The report also outlines the actions to be taken by the General Assembly at its fifty-first session in connection with the financing of UNAMIR.

8. As indicated in paragraph 6 and annex I to the Secretary-General's report, total expenditure for the period from 10 June to 31 December 1995 amounted to $95,012,800 gross ($93,098,500 net), compared with the revised cost estimate of UNAMIR for the same period of $96,685,400 gross ($94,880,600 net). The resulting unencumbered balance amounts to $1,672,600 gross ($1,782,100 net). However, taking into account the amount of $99,628,200 gross ($97,508,000 net) assessed on Member States in accordance with General Assembly resolution 49/20 B, the total unencumbered balance for this period amounts to $4,615,400 gross ($4,409,500 net).

9. Upon inquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that, as at 25 September 1996, the amount appropriated for the maintenance of the United Nations Observer Mission Uganda-Rwanda (UNOMUR) and UNAMIR from the date of inception until 30 September 1996 totalled $518.2 million gross ($510.7 million net). The Committee was also informed that while, as at 25 September 1996, a total amount of $495.3 million had been assessed on Member States from the date of inception until 30 September 1996, total contributions received for the same period amounted to $458.3 million, leaving a total outstanding assessment of $37 million.

10. The Advisory Committee was informed that, as at 25 September 1996, total unliquidated obligations for the period from the date of inception to 31 December 1995 amounted to $75.2 million, including the amount of $19,195,100 of unliquidated obligations for the period from 10 June to 31 December 1995.

11. In connection with the status of reimbursement to troop-contributing Governments, the Advisory Committee was informed that reimbursements totalling $84.3 million had been made from the date of inception to 30 November 1995. The Committee was also informed that the balance of payments due is estimated at $6.6 million.

12. The unencumbered balance of $1,672,600 gross ($1,782,100 net) referred to in paragraph 8 above resulted primarily from savings for military contingents; premises and accommodation; transport operations; air operations; and air and surface freight. The savings were partly offset by additional requirements for military and civilian personnel costs; communication; other equipment; and supplies and services, as indicated in annexes I and II to the Secretary-General's report.

13. The Advisory Committee notes from paragraph 8 of annex II to the Secretary-General's report that an additional amount of $166,800 was required under welfare for contingent personnel. Upon inquiry, the Committee was informed that the actual expenditure of $290,100 included recreational leave allowance payments to contingent personnel postponed from the previous mandate period because of operational requirements.

14. As indicated in paragraph 9 of annex II to the report, meal allowance was paid to military police and to the personnel of the Engineer Company, resulting in additional requirements of $317,700 under this item. Upon inquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that the meal allowance was $30 per person per day for a daily average of 61 military police personnel and a monthly average of 51 members of the Engineer Company. The Committee was also informed that the duty hours of those personnel did not permit them to have meals at the contingent mess facilities.

15. In paragraph 10 of annex II to the report, provision of $40,000 is made under other travel costs for the travel of four movement control personnel to the ports of Mombasa and Dar es Salaam to inspect containers transferred from the United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM II). Upon inquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that numerous trips were undertaken by the military movement control personnel jointly with UNAMIR civilian staff to Mombasa and Dar es Salaam to receive and inspect equipment arriving from UNOSOM II and United Nations Operation in Mozambique and to ensure customs clearance and shipment of UNAMIR and contingent-owned equipment to other peacekeeping missions and troop-contributing countries. The Committee was also informed that the amount of $40,000 was charged under travel of international staff, where an over-expenditure of $149,100 is reported in annex I to the report.

16. The Advisory Committee notes from paragraph 30 of annex II to the report that additional requirements of $71,800 resulted from payments made to crew of fixed-wing aircraft for which no provision had been made in the budget. Upon inquiry, the Committee was informed that the estimated average cost of accommodation amounted to $74 per person per night, meal allowance was $30 per person per day and terminal expenses were approximately $5 per person.

17. In paragraph 46 of annex II to the report, it is indicated that expenditures of $344,500 and $231,000 were incurred for storage charges at the Dar es Salaam seaport and for the rental of cranes and fork-lifts, respectively. With regard to the storage charges, upon inquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that these were attributable to storage of ex-UNOSOM equipment initially destined for UNAMIR but re-routed to the United Nations Angola Verification Mission because of changes in UNAMIR operational requirements. The Committee was also informed that the equipment in question arrived at Dar es Salaam between February and August 1995 and was subsequently shipped to Angola.

18. In connection with the rental of cranes and fork-lifts, the Advisory Committee was informed that the heavy-lift cranes (12-, 20-, 23- and 32-ton) and 3-ton fork-lifts, which were not available from the UNAMIR vehicle fleet, were required to move UNAMIR containers and equipment to and from the customs compound and warehouse at Kigali.

19. In paragraph 8 (c) of the Secretary-General's report it is indicated that the action to be taken by the General Assembly in connection with the financing of UNAMIR is a decision on the treatment of the unencumbered balance of $4,615,400 gross ($4,409,500 net). The Advisory Committee recommends that the unencumbered balance be credited to Member States.